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JPRS L/10595

17 June 1982

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 27/82)



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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CONTENTS

ASIA

BURMA

Briefs	
Opium Seized in Pegu	1

PHILIPPINES

Dogs Used in Anti-Drug Drive	
(M. Silva; PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS, 18 May 82)	2
Advantages of Drug Detecting Dogs Noted	
(Editorial; PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS, 20 May 82).....	3
Briefs	
Marihuana Plantations Raided	4

SINGAPORE

Briefs	
Opium Seized From Burmese Ship	5

SRI LANKA

National Narcotics Control Board Secretariat Opened	
(Peter Balasuriya; THE ISLAND, 12 May 82).....	6
Sri Lanka Warned on Transmitting Drugs	
(DAILY NEWS, 18 May 82)	7
Stern Measures for Foreign Drug Dealers	
(Peter Balasuriya; THE ISLAND, 7 May 82)	8

- a - [III - WW - 138 FOUO]

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Drug Abuse Prevention Plan Drafted (DAILY NEWS, 12 May 82)	9
Briefs	
Airport Surveillance Up	10
Narcotics Board Headquarters	10
THAILAND	
Khun Sa Attempts To Bargain With RTG Noted (SIAM RAT SAPPADA WICHAN, 16 May 82)	11
Drug Dealing Diplomat Controversy Discussed (SIAM RAT SAPPADA WICHAN, 16 May 82)	14
Heroin Mailorder Scheme Reported (MATICHON, 24 Apr 82)	17
Columnist Hits Singapore as Source of Chemical (Pricha Kunpricha; DAO SIAM, 3 May 82)	18
Prosecutors Told To Stiffen Control of Drug Cases (DAO SIAM, 3 May 82)	20
Briefs	
Italian Arrested With Heroin	21
Heroin Seized After Chase	21
Arrests Follow Heroin Seizure	21
Acetic Anhydride Shortage	22
CANADA	
Cocaine Seized in Drug Roundup; Nine Charged (THE VANCOUVER SUN, 12 May 82)	23
Briefs	
Drug Cache Seized	24
Trafficker Jailed	24
LATIN AMERICA	
COLOMBIA	
Drug Traffickers Kill Indians (Walter Martinez; EL TIEMPO, 28 Apr 82)	25
Briefs	
Cocaine Confiscated	26

GUYANA

Briefs	
Seizure of Marihuana	27

MEXICO

Briefs	
Heroin, Cocaine Confiscated	28

PANAMA

Briefs	
Marihuana Shipment Seized	29

NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

IRAN

Fifteen International Narcotics Smugglers Executed (KEYHAN, 3 May 82)	30
Briefs	
Huge Opium Haul	32
Sarakhs Drug Seizure	32
Court Sentences Traffickers	32
Bandar 'Abbas Opium Seizure	32
Bandar 'Abbas Heroin Find	32
Opium Seizure in Mashhad	32
Drugs Seized in Zahedan	32
Drug Arrest	32

LEBANON

Briefs	
Hashish Smuggler Arrested	33

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

SEYCHELLES

Judge Warns of Crackdown on Drug Smugglers (NATION, 25 May 82)	34
---	----

SOUTH AFRICA

Survey on Use of Drugs at Witwatersrand Reported
(Anthea Tasker; SUNDAY TIMES, 16 May 82) 36

SWAZILAND

Increase in Drug Abuse Deplored
(Ndvuna Dlamini; THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND, 17 May 82)... 37

WEST EUROPE

GREECE

Briefs
French Heroin Smugglers Convicted 38
Italian Heroin Traffickers Arrested 38

ITALY

Overview of Illicit Narcotics Activities
(Fabio Scaramucci; L'UMANITA, 20-22 Apr 82) 39
More Stress on Social Aspects of Anti-Drug Plan Needed
(Alvaro Benedetti; AVANTI, 27 Apr 82) 45

NORWAY

Drug Overdose Deaths Tied to Heroin Gangs in Middle East
(Petter Nome; ARBEIDERBLADET, 8 May 82) 48
Trial Begins; Man Accused of Smuggling Hashish From Morocco
(Helge Sorensen; AFTENPOSTEN, 27 May 82) 50
Briefs
Trondheim Narcotics Use Up 52

SWEDEN

View of Higly Organized Drug Network Challenged
(G. W. Persson; DAGENS NYHETER, 28 Apr 82) 53
Maximum Sentences Seen for Amphetamine Smugglers
(Sune Olsson; SVENSKA DAGBLADET, 17 May 82) 58

TURKEY

Briefs
Narcotics Seized 61
Base Morphine Seized 61

- d -

UNITED KINGDOM

Lenient Sentence for Head of Drug-Smuggling Ring
(Ian Henry; THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, 15 May 82) 62

Briefs
Airport Spot Fines Planned 63

- e -

BURMA

BRIEFS

OPIUM SEIZED IN PEGU--On 24 May, police Lance Corporal Tin Than and Private Aung Naing, acting on their suspicions, asked Daw Thein Myint and Daw War Chu, who were on No 1 platform at Pegu railway station, to accompany them to the police station. On arrival at the police station, police, in the presence of witnesses, searched the belongings of the two women and found 5.7 viss [1 viss equals 3.6 pounds] of black opium hidden in baskets containing yellow pumpkins and ripe tamarind. [BK040821 Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese 27 May 82 p 5]

CSO: 5300/5770

PHILIPPINES

DOGS USED IN ANTI-DRUG DRIVE

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 18 May 82 p 2

[Article by M. Silva]

[Text]

DON'T get scared when you see four big dogs when you go to the Manila post office in Liwasang Bonifacio or to the air parcel section at the Manila international airport to claim your parcels or mails.

"Dito," "Arko," "Zipper" and "Bjorn," as they are called, are four dogs from Germany highly trained not to bite persons roaming around postal offices but to detect illicit drugs that might be stuffed beneath those parcels.

Four Customs policemen, led by Capt. Roberto Belmonte, accompanied the dogs after a 10-week course in Lunnenbreg, West Germany on the training of dogs for sniffing narcotics and explosives.

Each dog cost an average of P10,000 each and will require a total of P1,500 daily for food and medicine.— M. Silva

CSO: 5300/5760

PHILIPPINES

ADVANTAGES OF DRUG DETECTING DOGS NOTED

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 20 May 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Airport Sniffers: Not Just Novelty"]

[Text]

MANY view the recent acquisition by the Bureau of Customs of four dogs trained to detect prohibited and regulated drugs as a novelty, which it is in this part of the world.

But the move is merely the latest measure adopted by the government to curb the growing drug menace in the country. The dogs, which are specially-trained to sniff out such drugs as marijuana, cocaine, opium, morphine and amphetamines, will be able to assist customs policemen substantially in the apprehension of culprits who persist in their nefarious and socially-harmful trade.

It is also expected that soon, customs officials will benefit from the services of dogs yet-to-be purchased that will help them detect explosives and ammunitions that continue to slip into the country, only to end up in the hands of criminal elements.

With all these measures, including previous ones imposing stiffer penalties on violators of the prohibited drugs law and the firearms ban, there should be no reason why customs policemen and other law enforcers should still bungle their work.

Of course, the matter of strict enforcement is something else. If the government has somewhat fallen short in combatting the widespread smuggling of prohibited drugs and firearms into the country, it has been due to, in most instances, the laxity and unsustained nature in enforcement by those charged with the job. Either because of personal gains that may be realized from looking the other way, or simply because of complacency, these marshalls become as guilty as those directly involved in these activities.

The harmful effects of drug abuse have been publicized often enough. So has the actual threat to society of firearms and ammunitions falling into the wrong hands. Yet, we do not seem to be coming any closer to the satisfactory solution of these problems. The purchase by customs officials of the special dogs should not begin and end as a novelty.

CSO: 5300/5760

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

MARIHUANA PLANTATIONS RAIDED--Government operatives raided marijuana plantations in Benguet and Ilocos Sur last Tuesday and Sunday, uprooting more than ₱5.5 million worth of marijuana plants and seedlings. Lawmen uprooted the other day ₱4.5 million worth of dried marijuana leaves in two plantations in sitio Legleg, barangay Palina, Benguet, the biggest marijuana seizure so far this year. Maj. Roberto Ortega, chief of the special intelligence branch of the Metrocom intelligence and security group (MISG), said the plantation caretaker, Colva Donglal, 60, was arrested. A .22 caliber paltik revolver was found in his possession. Two sacks of dried and fresh marijuana plants were seized as evidence while the rest were burned as means to transport them was difficult. One sack contained 35,000 pieces of marijuana leaves while the other contained 10,000 pieces. Donglal and his unidentified companions will be charged of violating anti-narcotic laws before the Benguet fiscal's office. [Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 28 May 82 p 40] CAMB DANGWA, Benguet, May 27--More than 10,000 fully grown marijuana plants, including seedlings, worth more than ₱1 million were uprooted last Sunday by government operatives in barangay Buburan, Del Pilar, Ilocos Sur. [Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 28 May 82 p 40]

CSO: 5300/5769

SINGAPORE

BRIEFS

OPIUM SEIZED FROM BURMESE SHIP--Customs officers yesterday seized 9.5 kilos of raw opium worth about \$24,000 from a Burmese ship in the harbour yesterday morning. The seizure, described by a customs official as the "biggest" in recent years, was made during a routine check only 2 hours after the cargo ship, Friendship 387, sailed into the outer roads anchorage. The drugs, wrapped in five packages, were found hidden among stacks of rubber bales and firewood in the ship's cargo hatch. Customs men have picked up a suspect from among the 39 crew members to help them in their investigations. Under the misuse of drugs act, anyone caught peddling more than 6 kilos of raw opium faces a maximum penalty of 30 years' jail plus caning, on conviction. [Text] [BK040821 Singapore THE SUNDAY TIMES in English 30 May 82 p 7]

CSO: 5300/5770

SRI LANKA

NATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD SECRETARIAT OPENED

Colombo THE ISLAND in English 12 May 82 p 2

/Article by Peter Balasuriya/

/Text/

A Secretariat for the National Narcotics Control Board declared open by Deputy Minister of defence Mr. T. B. Werapitiya on the 3rd floor of the New Secretariat, Fort.

Associated with Mr. Werapitiya on this occasion were the IGP Mr. Rudra Rajasingham, senior DIGs Mr. R. Sunderalingam, Mr. Hubert Weerasinghe, Mr. S. S. Joseph, Mr. Edward Gunawardene, Mr. Ernest Perera, and other senior officers. Mr. Hema Weerasinghe SP of the Narcotics Division was also present.

Mr. Werapitiya, shortly after the opening told the press that President J. R. Jayewardene had given high priority to narcotic drugs in view of the phenomenal increase in the illicit manufacture of various types of narcotic drugs in the countries within the Asian region. This situation had been further aggravated with West Asian countries now manufacturing a very highly potent type of heroin and using Colombo as an outlet to western markets.

"It is to avoid the possibility of Sri

Lanka becoming a vulnerable point for the transshipment of narcotic drugs from the Golden Triangle area, Nepal, Pakistan and the Golden Crescent areas that high priority has been given to its prevention," Mr. Werapitiya said.

He added the present office was complete in every aspect to meet this challenge.

The office has separate sections devoted to crime prevention, highway accidents etc. There were also exhibits of various types of dangerous weapons now in use in the country, a rogues gallery with life size photographs of hard core criminals, the various kinds of local and foreign narcotic drugs in common use, the utensils used for their processing the contraptions used to smuggle them out and a complete illicit laboratory which had been established in Hikkaduwa and later raided by the Police.

Among the portraits of hard-core criminals were the pictures of Podi-Wije who terrorised the Anuradhapura area and Willie Kulatunga, with 19 hold-ups to his credit, who jumped jail last week.

CSO: 5300/5760

SRI LANKA

SRI LANKA WARNED ON TRANSMITTING DRUGS

Colombo DAILY NEWS in English 18 May 82 p 1

/Text/

All international airports in Asia are transit points for narcotic smuggling, Interpol and the Narcotic Division of the United Nations have informed the Sri Lanka Narcotic Bureau.

In the latest communication the bureau has received from these agencies, it has been said that every major sea port and all international airports in Asia are being used by big-time narcotic smugglers.

Division, 80 per cent of the world supply of heroin originates from the mountain range on the borders of Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran, popularly known as the Golden Crescent.

The smugglers have adopted various ruses to export the drugs to western capitals and the most common one is transit through airports where checks are few.

Quoting a recent incident Interpol has said a large stock of heroin was brought from Karachi to Jakarta from where an attempt was made to fly it to Paris. Instead of taking the cheaper direct route in this manner every

airport is infested with smugglers and couriers. Interpol has warned.

Meanwhile the Police Narcotics Division has asked Interpol to send passport particulars and descriptions of any smuggler or courier rabbed at any airport in the world.

"Hitherto such information reached us several weeks after the incident. But in future we shall receive messages immediately", the spokesman added.

He explained that Interpol's "Stop and Watch List" will develop into a Data bank which will help Colombo to keep a tab on traffickers and their associates.

CSO: 5300/5760

SRI LANKA

STERN MEASURES FOR FOREIGN DRUG DEALERS

Colombo THE ISLAND in English 7 May 82 p 2

[Article by Peter Balasuriya]

[Text] Government is to come down hard on foreign drug addicts finding their way into Sri Lanka. It has been found that the drug addicts are bringing a highly potent opium, heroin and other narcotic drugs of West Asian origin.

Perturbed at the manner in which these drugs are coming into this country a three-pronged attack is now being envisaged to root out this dreaded menace. The Police and Customs in collaboration with Interpol are attempting to identify these noted addicts and pedlars and keep them and their activities under stricter surveillance.

This measure follows the spate of deaths in this country of foreigners who had left tell-tale evidence of their drug addiction. "Fortunately none of these victims are Sri Lankans which evidently proves these drugs are not in common use by locals," a Police spokesman told The Island.

Interpol is to assist Sri Lanka giving detailed information in respect of internationally known drug addicts and even pedlars to enable Sri Lanka to curb their activities here. It is understood these addicts were the carriers for a more potent type narcotic drugs manufactured in the Crescent Triangle area for which there are little outlets now.

This new strategy had been bared shortly after a Canadian national who had visited Sri Lanka on several occasions was sentenced to a long term of imprisonment in Montreal.

CSO: 5300/5760

SRI LANKA

DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION PLAN DRAFTED

Colombo DAILY NEWS in English 12 May 82 p 1

/Text/

A draft Dangerous Drugs Control Act has been produced by the Legal Draftsman for the consideration of government.

The draft legislation provides for the establishment of a "National Dangerous Drugs Control Act of Sri Lanka" and considerably tightens the existing narcotics control legislation.

The Board will be headed by the Defence Minister or his deputy and include senior officials or their nominees—the Secretary to the Foreign Ministry, IGP, Principal Collector of Customs, Director of Health, Government Analyst, the Commissioners of Ayurveda and Excise and three persons of distinction in the field of prevention of drug abuse and control to be appointed by the President.

The Secretary-General of the Board will be a policeman with a rank not below that of Superintendent.

The draft legislation covers prohibition in respect of dangerous drugs, enforcement investigation, trial evidence and punishment.

It empowers police and authorised officers to arrest without warrant any person reasonably suspected of being connected or concerned in any offence under the Act.

Wide ranging search and seizure powers are included in the draft law.

There is substantial enhancement of punishment for drug trafficking with fines ranging from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 200,000 and terms of imprisonment from three months to 20 years imposable.

CSO: 5300/5760

SRI LANKA

BRIEFS

AIRPORT SURVEILLANCE UP--Deputy Defence Minister T.B. Werapitiya has ordered intensive surveillance of hard drugs at the Katunayake Airport following five narcotic induced deaths of foreigners during the last ten days. The Deputy Minister who also serves as Chairman of the Narcotics Control Board has said that the best officers with a good knowledge of narcotics work be deployed on this operation. [Text] [Colombo DAILY NEWS in English 10 May 82 p 1]

NARCOTICS BOARD HEADQUARTERS--The Deputy Defence Minister Mr T.B. Werapitiya who opened the new headquarters of the Narcotics Control Board at the new Secretariat office yesterday said that President J.R. Jayewardene was very keen on checking drug abuse in the country. The Minister who said that legislation was ready to stamp out drug abuse remarked that the problem here was not as acute as in many other parts of the world. The IGP, Mr Rudra Rajasingham said that while the authorities were arming themselves with the necessary legislation to act swiftly against offenders, it was necessary that the public co-operate with the police if this problem was to be effectively tackled. The IGP added that the Australian Police would supply Colombo with specially trained dogs for narcotics work. [Text] [Colombo DAILY NEWS in English 12 May 82 p 1]

CSO: 5300/5760

THAILAND

KHUN SA ATTEMPTS TO BARGAIN WITH RTG NOTED

Bangkok SIAM RAT SAPPADA WICHAN in Thai 16 May 82 pp 4, 5

[Article: "Ban Hin Taek: The War Is Not Over"]

[Text] The thing that was expected has been confirmed by Washington. The SUA forces of Khun Sa, whose secure base at Ban Hin Taek was destroyed at the beginning of January, have been pressured to cooperate with the forces of the Burmese Communist Party in expanding their influence in the drug trade and in opposing the Rangoon government of Burma. A U.S. congressional committee on the BCP revealed that Burmese forces number 12,000 men and an additional 3,000 can be called up. A government has been formed in the jungle in the Golden Triangle area near the Thai-Burmese border.

Colonel Choe Phosrinak, the commander of the Meng Rai Maharat camp in Chiang Rai Province stated that, at present, opium caravans using 2,000 mules are transporting the opium from Yunnan in southern China down into the northern region of Thailand. This made it necessary for Thailand to send in troops to annihilate the forces of Khun Sa once again on 9 and 10 May.

The Thai forces that were used to expel the forces of Khun Sa that had returned and set up a new operations base in Thailand for the second time were composed of four companies of border patrol police -- two companies from the Naresuan camp and two companies from the Dararatsami camp -- 300 thahan phran irregulars from CK 513 in Pakthongchai, Nakhon Ratchasima, soldiers from the 3rd and 5th battalions of the 7th Infantry and forces from the Special Warfare Center. These forces were supported by armored vehicles and 16 military and police helicopters and four aircraft.

During a reconnaissance patrol near Ban Lao Lu in Mae Chan District, which is about 8 kilometers northwest of Ban Hin Taek, just when the helicopters were bringing in support troops they came under fire. One soldier was killed and three were wounded. Three of the helicopters were hit. Police aircraft No 1718 had to make an emergency landing at the Ban Hin Taek base because of the extensive damage it had sustained. Another aircraft was damaged but managed to return to the base of BPP Company 4. It could not be used again because the discharge was damaged and the control stick had been broken.

The clash began at 1100 hours on 9 May. Thai government forces encountered approximately 40 men of Khun Sa at Ban Lao Lu. The battle became more and more violent. Artillery fire had to be called in for support and aircraft had to drop bombs in order to seize Khun Sa's base at Ban Lao Lu. Eight of Khun Sa's men were killed and two who were wounded were captured. M16s, carbines, antitank rocket launchers, ammunition, 10 kilograms of raw and cooked opium, 100 bags of glucose, rice, blankets and a large quantity of medicine were seized.

General Athit Kamlangek, the assistant commander in chief of the army and the commanding general of the First Army Area, stated that this operation was launched because recent aerial photographs taken by the air force had shown that new villages had been set up and that defense shelters different from those at other villages were being built. In particular, at Ban Lao Lu, there were originally only a few houses there, but the aerial photographs showed several hundred houses there. This made [officials] suspect that this was the site of a heroin refinery or a base for foreign troops. Thus, troops were sent to determine what was going on there and the clash broke out.

A Fight Over the Body of a Reporter

General Prachuap Suntharangkun, the deputy prime minister, and his entourage recently visited Burma. During the visit, the matter of Khun Sa was discussed. Thailand and Burma will cooperate in suppressing Khun Sa and in suppressing the forces of the BCP. Concerning the agreement that was reached, Burma requested cooperation from Thailand in suppressing the rebellion by the minority groups, such as the Karens and Burmese communists. Burma will send troops to attack these groups and Thailand will station troops along the border in order to prevent the minority group forces from retreating into Thailand when they are attacked.

Another point is that the forces of Khun Sa that fled into Burma when they were attacked at Ban Hin Taek fled into a gap between the Burmese and Thai forces. The terrain here is composed of complex mountain ranges and rivers that hinder the Burmese forces from making attacks. Thus, the latest report stated that "Khun Sa is still quite well." And the fact that forces of Khun Sa assassinated Mr Thawip Kaenthapthim, the editor of the newspaper MATUPHUM who disappeared while gathering information on the first suppression operation against Khun Sa, and refused to return his body forced Thailand to take strong action in order to pressure them to return the body. A military news source stated that the fact that Khun Sa refused to return the body of Mr Thawip Kaenthapthim or allow the body to be taken out has greatly tarnished the image of the Thai government since even though this was a Thai who died in Thailand, the [government] has not been able to get the body back.

A Bargain

When Khun Sa was attacked the first time, his forces suffered very few casualties. Even Chang Si Chuan, [Khun Sa's] chief of staff, was able to escape the attack

by Thai forces and move his forces to Ban Lao Lu. This is a new base from which to carry on the fight. However, Khun Sa is still making contact in order to bargain with the Thai government for the return of Ban Hin Taek, Thoet Thai village, to SUA forces. In return, he has agreed to return the body of Mr Thawip Kaenthapthim and serve as a buffer state against the BCP.

The most important thing that Khun Sa has bargained for besides the base is the return of all the weapons that were seized by the Thai forces. Otherwise, he may have to take some action to secure the return of these weapons. This has made it necessary for Thailand to mobilize both civilian and police forces to defend the four border districts of Mae Sai, Mae Chan, Chiang Saen and Chiang Rai's Muong District. These districts are in an area of influence where Khun Sa can carry out terrorist operations.

These negotiations took place only 4 days before the sweep operation was launched. Thailand refused all of the proposals that were put forth. General Prem Tinsulanon, the prime minister, stated that Thailand will not allow any minority group forces to live in Thailand. The Thai government has definitely never had a policy of allowing minority groups to come live in Thailand.

The reason that Thailand has had to suppress Khun Sa is that the Thai government believes that this is an internationally important pirate, or criminal, group that has gained influence, amassed forces and weapons, expanded large troop bases and violated the sovereignty of Thailand. In addition, Khun Sa produces approximately 70 percent of the narcotics that are produced in the Thai-Burmese border area. The Thai government seized and destroyed three heroin refineries in the attack on Khun Sa's forces in October 1981. This occurred prior to the attack on Ban Hin Taek in January 1982. In the latter attack, 16 Thais died and 50 were wounded; 200 of Khun Sa's soldiers were killed. Weapons, war materials, communications equipment and medicines were seized. This included more than 700 weapons, including small arms such as carbines, M16s, AKs, RPGs, bazookas, grenade launchers, 52,000 rounds of ammunition, more than 300 grenades and more than 300 Sony radio receivers.

The two operations this year that used forces to wipe out the forces of Khun Sa show that the Thai government has not really been able to suppress the minority group forces that know the jungle-mountain terrain very well. Even though suppression operations have been carried on using aircraft to drop bombs, the minority group forces are still active, and they have found a way to set up a new secure base. The war against this minority group that has been forced to fight for its survival by cooperating with other groups that have influence and that have greatly expanded their influence will be difficult. The war against the minority groups in the Thai-Burmese border area is not over.

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CSO: 5300/5756

THAILAND

DRUG DEALING DIPLOMAT CONTROVERSY DISCUSSED

Bangkok SIAM RAT SAPPADA WICHAN in Thai 16 May 82 p 4

[Article: "Special Diplomatic Rights and the Drug Trade"]

[Text] Concerning international drug smuggling, new tricks are used all the time. The latest method that was discovered involved a Japanese who swallowed the drugs in order to take an airplane to the drug market in Japan. But there was an "explosion," his stomach burst and he died immediately. Besides this, many other methods are being used to smuggle drugs from the sources in the Golden Triangle to world markets in various countries. Drug suppression officials are often "followers" of the clever tricks of the drug dealers.

But something that narcotics suppression officials never thought about was the possibility of there being a relationship between "special diplomatic rights" and the narcotics trade. Then last Friday, a U.S. drug suppression unit, in cooperation with a metropolitan narcotics suppression unit, arrested Mr Sihadet Chindawong, the Thai vice consul in Chicago, on charges of being involved in the drug trade. Thai police revealed that the more than 7.5 kilograms of heroin that was seized this time was sent in Ministry of Foreign Affairs mail that was stamped as having special diplomatic privileges. Neither Thai nor American customs officials have the right to open such mail for inspection.

Thai police revealed that before Mr Sihadet was arrested, DEA police arrested one Thai and two Americans of Italian descent. They were identified as Mr Alexander Satiwing, who was arrested in Baltimore, Maryland, with 1 pound of heroin in his possession. The other man was Mr Pauly Patrick, who was arrested in New Jersey on 9 April with 2 pounds of heroin in his possession. From the investigation, it was learned that this heroin had been obtained from the Thai consulate in Chicago.

But this investigation did not produce enough evidence to prove that officials of the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs assigned to this consulate were involved in the drug trade. However, DEA police were suspicious and they asked for Thailand's cooperation. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs immediately gave them the "green light" to "make arrests if there is evidence." Following this, Thai police began to investigate the matter and checked communications between

the airport and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. After approximately 1 month, it was discovered that a quantity of narcotics had been sent to the consulate in Chicago.

"We did not conduct a scientific investigation in this case. We just made an investigation and made things stricter. We could not open the pouch for inspection since it was protected by special diplomatic privilege. We just relied on the reaction of the "dogs" that smelled the mail at the airport and knew that there were drugs in that pouch. But we allowed the owner to come pick it up so that we could identify who was 'responsible.' That was the first check, especially at Chicago's Ohara Airport," said a police official who took part in the investigation to SIAM RAT SAPPADA WICHAN. And the United States withdrew Mr Sihadet's right to diplomatic immunity without his prior knowledge.

However, concerning the arrest of Mr Sihadet, at first when it was decided to arrest him, the police did not find any evidence on him. But when they went to search the apartment where he was living the next day, that is, 1 May, the U.S. drug suppression unit found 5 pounds of heroin and eight illegal pistols hidden in a wall that had been specially built for concealing items. Thus, in addition to the charge of having narcotics in his possession with intent to sell, he was also charged with illegally having pistols in his possession.

One official in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said that no one had ever imagined that an official of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs would join a narcotics gang. This news has "shocked" everyone in the ministry. In particular, Mr Sihadet is usually a very polite and good tempered person. But he lived in Hong Kong before being transferred to the United States. He was in Hong Kong for 4 years and was transferred only a year ago. Thus, it is believed that Mr Sihadet got involved in the drug trade when he was living in Hong Kong, which is one of the leading drug trafficking centers in Asia just like the Golden Triangle area.

At present, the police have completed only 60 percent of the work [in this case]. Police Lieutenant General Sen Sithiphan, the assistant director-general of the Police Department for suppression activities, who is in charge of this case, revealed that there are still others in Thailand who are involved in this case, and it is believed that it will be possible to arrest the ringleaders. Police Lieutenant General Chamrat Chanthonkhachon, the commissioner of the Commissioner's Office of the Metropolitan Police, stated that this case has been under investigation for a long time and that Mr Sihadet is only a minor person.

Concerning narcotics suppression in this case, an official in the narcotics suppression unit once made the comparison that this is similar to drilling for water. When we have drilled far enough, we can discover the network to see where it leads and then make arrests, if influential people do not exert pressure first. But it is very difficult to discover [the network].

Concerning the events surrounding the identification of a man who abused his special diplomatic rights, which are considered to be an honor granted by each country in order to help carry out the secret policy activities of the country more quickly in international activities, such actions make use of the rights of the Thai people for personal gain and this is reprehensible. This amounts to throwing away the honor others have for Thais and reduces the honor of all Thais.

Based on the police investigation, it is believed that there are still other narcotics rings in Thailand. But evidence is being gathered in order to seize the "mail pouch." There is certainly someone in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which has been given this special privilege, who is concealing narcotics in the pouches before they are sent to the United States. There must be an investigation to discover this "dark hand." He may be calm, feeling that there is not enough evidence to arrest him or there may be a major purge in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

However, even though the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has announced that it is cooperating fully in eliminating this group, there has been a report that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs investigated the posting of this mail pouch and found that it may have been someone else who was involved. In particular, it may have been officials at Don Muong Airport or airline officials who secretly placed narcotics in the mail pouch before it was loaded onto the aircraft. This may mean that it was not the fault of Ministry of Foreign Affairs officials that there were drugs in the mail pouch that had special diplomatic rights. Rather, out of carelessness, some other "guilty" person was able to do this.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has encountered weaknesses concerning this special privilege before. For example, there was the case of people taking in goods without paying taxes in Korea and the case of diamonds being smuggled out of India. Such things have provided frequent examples, but the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has not taken steps to prevent such things or solve this problem. Thus, the fact that a narcotics group has been found to be active in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs provides a good opportunity to clean up this "devine ministry."

11943
CSO: 5300/5756

THAILAND

HEROIN MAILORDER SCHEME REPORTED

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 24 Apr 82 p 3

[Article: "Letters Containing Heroin Secretely Sent. Most Are Sent to Canada"]

[Text] It has been revealed that most of the letters containing heroin are sent to Canada, followed by France and Germany. The people who do this post the letters to themselves while they are still travelling in Thailand.

A report from the Communications Authority of Thailand informed MATICHON about reports that German officials have requested cooperation from Thai officials in blocking the export of heroin in letters. The report said that this has actually been taking place. Those engaging in this sprinkle heroin onto stationary. Sometimes they sprinkle it onto newspaper, which is then rolled up and sent by mail.

"One time, I discovered a letter sent to Thailand from Germany. The envelop was torn and inside I saw German marks. I opened the letter to see if all the money was there. It turned out that the letter had been sent to purchase heroin," said one official. He said that, normally, when heroin is sent by mail like this, [the packages] are sent as if they are birthday gifts for friends or sweethearts or gifts on various occasion such as Christmas and New Year's. This is because it is difficult to purchase heroin abroad and it is more expensive than in Thailand.

"Some of these people send the heroin to friends who are travelling in other countries. Others send it to their own homes by addressing the letters to themselves. When they get home, they have a large quantity of heroin from the many letters they posted waiting for them," said the same official.

MATICHON inquired about this at the Postal Exchange Center at Don Muang Airport. MATICHON was informed that such letters are found frequently. In 1981, 20 were found and each contained approximately 2 grams of heroin or less. Most of the letters were addressed to places in Canada, followed by France and Germany.

"We use officials who are really talented to check the letters. Such letters are softer than normal letters. Most of these are registered letters," said an official who works at the Postal Exchange Center. He also said that, in addition to heroin, marihuana is sometimes found.

11943

CSO: 5300/5756

THAILAND

COLUMNIST HITS SINGAPORE AS SOURCE OF CHEMICALS

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 3 May 82 p 3

[Scratch the Itch column by Pricha Kunpricha: "White Powder Chemicals"]

[Text] Thailand has been labeled as a country where it is as easy to purchase drugs as it is to purchase sex. And Thailand's image has been tarnished by the "Golden Triangle" matter. Actually, this is not a definite area but only a designated area. However, people in general think that it is in Thailand.

The "insane triangle," this is what belongs to Thailand.

Those who make a living from the tourists have made things even worse. They take people on trips to the Golden Triangle and they have created a "bad area" in Chiang Saen to serve as a "Golden Triangle."

There is probably less heroin in Thailand than in Burma, where poppies are grown freely in the Shan State. But Burma cannot control things there because this is an area under the control of more than 10 Shan State liberation groups, which have divided up the area among themselves.

Heroin is not produced from opium only. The production of heroin requires the use of other chemicals too. Without these chemicals, heroin cannot be produced. If there is just one type of chemical, heroin cannot be produced. The two important chemicals are anhydride and acetic chloride.

The market for chemicals used to produce heroin is in Singapore. They can be purchased and sold freely there. There are no controls even though these two types of chemicals are contraband goods and cannot be purchased or sold in Thailand.

In Singapore, how much do you want? One liter is 40 baht and you can purchase as much as you want. How much do these two chemicals sell for in Thailand? Eight thousand baht per liter!

Since there is such a great difference in price, there is great traffic in these chemicals, which are transported from Singapore to Malaysia and then into Thailand.

People who go to Singapore do not have to go to the trouble of bringing in electrical goods or other types of goods on which taxes have not been paid. If they bring back just 1 or 2 liters, they have recovered the cost of their air fare.

There are several places in Thailand where chemicals are purchased. They can be purchased along Suriwong Road, in Bangrak and in Bobe; these are the major sources.

Having Thailand stop the cultivation of poppies, destroy the refineries and scatter the forces of the international narcotics traffickers such as Khun Sa all by itself is impossible unless there is "cooperation" in stopping, or prohibiting, the sale of these two types of chemicals in Singapore.

But this would be counter to Singapore's trade policy since these two chemicals are goods that are used in other industries too.

Whoever can suppress this can go ahead. Whoever can sell this can do so. People can carry on suppression activities until they die, or people can use drugs until they die. There will always be heroin!

11943

CSO: 5300/5756

THAILAND

PROSECUTORS TOLD TO STIFFEN CONTROL OF DRUG CASES

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 3 May 82 pp 3, 10

[Article: "Prosecutors Ordered to Stiffen Control of Drug and Corruption Cases"]

[Text] Mr Suchin Thimsuwan, the director-general of the Department of Public Prosecutions, revealed that he has ordered prosecutors throughout the country to control and monitor important cases closely. This includes cases involving drugs and corruption. He has made those prosecutors who are skilled and honest responsible for this. These cases must be prosecuted fairly, in accord with the laws and in accord with the files compiled by the Investigation Office.

As for the cases that the people are interested in, the director-general of the Department of Public Prosecutors stated that he has ordered people to stiffen control and take special responsibility for these cases, including drug cases in which the value of the drugs exceeds 50,000 baht. This has been done because it is felt that these cases pose a danger to society and the country. This control has been stipulated as the first step. That is, in Bangkok, it is the special case prosecutors who are responsible while, in the provinces, it is the zone prosecutors who are responsible.

A reporter asked whether this was ordered because of the case in which a prosecutor in Chiang Mai ordered a New Zealand man imprisoned on drug charges released, a case concerning which there have been widespread reports that it was Mr Prathueng Kritibut, the former director-general of the Department of Public Prosecutions and the minister of interior, who issued the order. Mr Suchin said that this was not true. It is the policy of the Department of Public Prosecutions to control the prosecution of each case strictly. As for the withdrawal of the charges in this particular case, at present the Investigation Office is conducting an investigation. If a proposal is made, the Department of Public Prosecutions will be the one to decide whether further charges should be filed. The case cannot be kept quiet.

11943

CSO: 5300/5756

THAILAND

BRIEFS

ITALIAN ARRESTED WITH HEROIN--In what is believed to be the biggest haul at Don Muang airport this year, customs officials arrested a 30-year-old Italian, Romano Vincenzo, and seized 13.66 kgs of top grade heroin, initially valued at 2.3 million baht. The heroin was in 12 plastic bags wrapped in paper and covered with cloth inside a piece of his luggage. Vincenzo reportedly entered the country on 24 May and stayed at the Dusit Thani Hotel. He was about to board a Qantas flight for Belgrade when the heroin was discovered at the immigration checkpoint. [Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 29 May 82 p 1 BK]

HEROIN SEIZED AFTER CHASE--Highway police seized 22 kgs of heroin from a truck that was abandoned after a police chase on Phetkasem Highway in Phetburi Province. The police, acting on a tipoff that a 10-wheel truck was carrying narcotics from Bangkok to the south, set up a checkpoint in Cha Am District. When the driver failed to stop, police gave chase. The truck struck another truck and was abandoned by the driver who fled the scene after jumping aboard a passing bus. The police found the heroin when searching the truck. [Bangkok WORLD in English 29 May 82 [page not given] BK]

ARRESTS FOLLOW HEROIN SEIZURE--Chiang Mai--Four suspects were arrested on charges of possessing heroin with intent to sell after an investigation by a Muang District drug squad revealed that an illegal drug transaction was to occur at a house in Tambon Chang Phuak. Police followed two men from the house to the Western Region Technology and Vocational Institute and arrested them when they left a foodshop. They had 1,400 grams of dragon brand heroin, with an estimated market value of 300,000 baht, in their possession. The police then radioed their colleagues to raid the house, when Phinit Tanthanasin, 55, the owner of the house and alleged leader of the gang, and Pat Khanthawong, 55, the alleged contact man for the gang, were arrested. The two men arrested earlier were Phinit's son Bunthawi, 26, and his friend Surasak Ali, 25. A motorcyclist who had been at the house earlier escaped. [Bangkok POST in English 4 Jun 82 p 3 BK]

■ ACETIC ANHYDRIDE SHORTAGE There is a shortage of the chemical used to refine opium into heroin. One gallon costs several hundred thousand baht. It has been revealed that Taiwan is secretly producing this chemical and selling it even though it is on the control list of the world community. In Thailand, the factories that produce medical drugs are experiencing problems because prices are high and officials are strict. Yesterday, one industrial chemist who produces medicines said that, at present, the factories that produce medical drugs are experiencing great difficulties because of a shortage of acetic anhydride, a liquid chemical that is used to extract drugs from various raw materials. "At present, the price of 1 gallon is at least 200,000 baht because of the inspections and import restrictions since it is a chemical that is controlled by government officials," said this chemist. Besides being used to produce medicines, this chemical is used to produce synthetic plastics and synthetic fiber. "But concerning its being used to refine heroin from opium, it is frequently smuggled in from abroad, usually from Taiwan, which secretly produces it without informing foreign organizations in order to avoid the controls." In addition to acetic anhydride, ether and ammonium chloride are chemicals that are used at each stage in refining heroin from opium. [Text] [Bagkok SIAM RAT in Thai 27 Apr 82 p 11] 11943

- CSO: 5300/5756

CANADA

COCAINE SEIZED IN DRUG ROUNDUP; NINE CHARGED

Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 12 May 82 p A7

[Text]

Former B.C. Lions football player Paul Giroday is one of nine persons charged today in a drug roundup by the Coordinated Law Enforcement Unit.

During the 10-month investigation an estimated 27 ounces of high-grade cocaine was seized in Prince Rupert, West Vancouver and Washington state.

Charged are: Giroday, 31, of 1010 Lillooet, North Vancouver, two counts of trafficking and one count of conspiracy to import; Sean Anthony O'Malley, 30, of 3432 Ash, three counts of conspiring to traffic in cocaine, one count of conspiring to import the drug into Canada and one count of possessing cocaine for the purpose of trafficking;

Warren Paul Schiewe, 33, of 403-1363 Clyde, West Vancouver, three counts of conspiring to traffic, one count of conspiring to import and one count of possession for the purpose of trafficking; Luis Alberto Quezada, 36, of 4-2140 West 2nd, four counts of conspiring to traffic;

Gary Christopher John Vicze, 29, of 3424 West 41st, two counts of conspiring to traffic and one count of conspiring to

import; Daniel Steven Hooper, 36, of 2030 — 200 Street, Langley, three counts of conspiring to traffic;

June Anne Hooper, 34, also of 2030 — 200 Street, Langley, three counts of conspiring to traffic; Rojo Garcia, 39, of 1005-1146 Harwood, two counts of conspiring to traffic and one count of possession for the purpose of trafficking; Jorge Pizarro, 35, of 819 Fulton, Prince Rupert, two counts of conspiring to traffic.

Five others are named as unindicted co-conspirators.

The major charge, naming all nine accused, alleges a conspiracy to traffic in cocaine in Vancouver, North Vancouver, West Vancouver, Burnaby, Prince Rupert and other locations in the province between last July 1 and to date.

The eight-count indictment also alleges Giroday and Vicze conspired to import cocaine into Canada between Oct. 1 and Nov. 30, 1981, and O'Malley and Schiewe conspired to import the drug into Canada between Nov. 1, 1981, and Feb. 28 of this year.

CSO: 5320/31

CANADA

BRIEFS

DRUG CACHE SEIZED--Toronto (UPC)--Metro Toronto police have arrested 36 people, laid 143 drug-related charges and seized narcotics with a street value of about \$30 million in what is believed to be the largest drug seizure in the city's history, a police spokesman said today. An investigation, nicknamed Project Rose after one of the central figures in the plot, began 11 months ago and ended with the seizure of drugs from six homes on Friday. "It was a major drug bust because much of it was destined for the streets of Toronto," said S. Sgt. Dennis Robinson, who directed the investigation. Police seized 935 kilograms of Lebanese hashish, 11 kilograms of liquid hashish, 22 kilograms of marijuana in the form of Thai sticks, 136 kilograms of marijuana and about 283 grams of cocaine. In addition to the Toronto-area arrests, police earlier last month arrested two Montreal residents, David Stone and Michele Burke, both 32. Police seized a car in an underground hotel parking lot and found about 300 pounds of hashish. The United States drug enforcement agency also seized drugs in Portland, Maine, after receiving tips from the Toronto drug squad. [Text] [Vancouver THE WEEKEND SUN in English 1 May 82 p A8]

TRAFFICKER JAILED--Sarnia--Randal Cram, 26, formerly of Ottawa, was sentenced Wednesday to 27 months in a federal penitentiary by Lambton County Court Judge Michael Meehan for possessing about \$100,000 worth of marijuana for the purpose of trafficking. Cram had pleaded guilty to the charge March 30. Cram was arrested by RCMP officers at the Canada Customs office at the Bluewater Bridge last February when he crossed the bridge in a car loaded with marijuana. He told police the marijuana had come from Ohio. Police said the marijuana was destined for Ontario markets. [Text] [Windsor THE WINDSOR STAR in English 6 May 82 p A12]

CSO: 5320/31

COLOMBIA

DRUG TRAFFICKERS KILL INDIANS

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 28 Apr 82 p 3-A

[Article by Walter Martinez]

[Text] Santa Marta--Some 12 natives were killed in recent weeks by presumed drug traffickers in Sierra Nevada de Santa Maria, according to a report made known yesterday.

Napoleon Torres, chief of the Arhuacos tribe, told EL TIEMPO that the offenders attack reservations and commit all kinds of outrages against the aborigines.

The native chief went to Bogota a few hours ago. He was accompanied by other tribal chiefs from Magdalena to denounce the slaughter.

According to Torres, departmental authorities do not pay any attention to these denunciations, let alone the problems confronted by the various tribes in Magdalena.

The native chief indicated that messages have even been sent to the authorities in Riohacha, Valledupar, and Santa Martha, but they have never received a specific reply. They therefore decided to go to Bogota in order to seek justice from the central government.

He said that the attackers prefer the coca plantings that the aborigines use for their own needs in the manner of their ancestors.

He specified that the most violent attacks occurred against the reservations of San Miguel, San Pedro, Mingueo, and Fundacion.

Panic has become evident, especially in recent days, among the Arhuacos and the Koguis tribes, descendants of the powerful Tayronas.

In his denunciation Torres stated that the whites are merciless with respect to the natives and that they also rape their young girls. In conclusion, he said that he will deliver a full report of these acts of violence to President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala, the Minister of Government, Jorge Mario Eastman, and the head of Indigenous Affairs, Julian Narvaez.

8255

CSO: 5300/2175

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

COCAINE CONFISCATED--Bogota, 11 May (AFP)--Narcotics police spokesmen reported here that the Colombian authorities dealt a new blow to drug traffickers today with the confiscation of 126 kg of very pure cocaine. The authorities of Natagaima, Tolima Department, located approximately 270 km southwest of Bogota, arrested seven persons and seized several vehicles, weapons, money and other items in this operation. [PA311240 Paris AFP in Spanish 0401 GMT 12 May 82]

CSO: 5300/2305

GUYANA

BRIEFS

SEIZURE OF MARIJUANA--The police yesterday morning destroyed 138 pounds of marijuana which had been seized in a number of operations. The marijuana was taken by the police squad to the incinerator and destroyed in the presence of a number of people including Corporal Geer who headed the police team, Cde. Jasson Bhagwandai of the Government Analyst Department, Cde. Ian Chung the Police Legal Advisor and Lennox Sussenden of the Customs Department. Some of the marijuana destroyed had been found in a suitcase addressed to a Guyanese doctor but according to the information it was not claimed. Members of the Customs Department have been working along with the police department in an effort to curb trafficking in marijuana in Guyana. [Text] [Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 7 May 82 p 16]

CSO: 5300/7557

MEXICO

BRIEFS

HEROIN, COCAINE CONFISCATED--Tijuana, B.C.N., 29 April--Federal Judicial Police officers confiscated drugs valued at more than 70 million pesos from two drug traffickers. Aaron Juarez, coordinator of the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic reported that those arrested are 54-year-old Jose Jimenez Pulido and 70-year old Rafael Vega Pico, They have previous prison records for crimes against health and for illicit trade. One kilo of pure heroin and 1 and 1/2 kilos of cocaine were taken from them. According to Aaron Juarez, the drugs are valued at more than 70 million pesos on the drug market. The arrested persons confessed that they had acquired the drugs in Sinaloa, and that they were taking them to the United States. /Text/ /Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 30 Apr 82 p 8-D7

CSO: 5300/2306

PANAMA

BRIEFS

MARIHUANA SHIPMENT SEIZED--Panama City, 15 May (ACAN)--Panamanian authorities seized nearly 1,500 ks of marihuana aboard the vessel "Halcon," with six Colombian crewmen. Agents of the National Investigation Department (DENI), the state security and national guard marine operations, participated in the operation near San Miguel Island, on the Panamanian Pacific waters. [PA281249 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0212 GMT 15 May 82]

CSO: 5300/2304

IRAN

FIFTEEN INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS SMUGGLERS EXECUTED

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 3 May 82 p 3

[Interview with Public Relations Officer Rafi'pur of the Islamic Revolutionary Antinarcotics Prosecutor's Office]

[Text] Shamiran--KEYHAN Correspondent--Fifteen hardened international smugglers were hung by order of the courts of the Special Antinarcotics Prosecutor.

Rafi'pur, spokesman for the Central Antinarcotics Prosecutor's Office of the Islamic Revolution, told a KEYHAN correspondent in an interview: During this initial period, since the time the huge tree of the splendid Islamic revolution was effected and became fruitful with the shedding of the blood of thousands of martyrs, and even now as the dear children of Islam are freely sacrificing their lives with the forces of faith at the battlefronts against world imperialism and Saddam's infidels lest the greening tree of the Islamic revolution be damaged, a number of godless people and foreign mercenaries, knowingly or otherwise, have drawn the youth of this land into the net of addiction and corrupted their creative power. What do the fathers and bereaved mothers of our martyrs expect of us? Do they not cry out that these corrupt vermin and merchants of death be dealt with in a revolutionary manner and hung? In answer to the offended voice of this martyr-nurturing nation of Iran, by decisive order of the courts of this prosecutor's office, 15 professional international heroin smugglers were sentenced to death. Their files were confirmed after study and review by the Supreme Judicial Council. Their sentences were carried out at 4 pm yesterday in the yard at Qasr prison. The bodies of the condemned were then taken to the coroner's office for legal processing. The names of the executed are:

1--'Ali Biseperi, son of 'Aziz of Tabriz, was convicted of addiction, procurement and distribution of heroin, possession of 21.2 grams of heroin, and in view of 6 previous offenses was condemned to death under paragraph A, article 6 of the antinarcotics law.

2-- Hasan Rostami, son of Mohammad, alias Hasan Shokri, of Nehavand.

3--Shokrollah Rostami, son of Mohammad of Nehavand.

4--Sirus Hosseyn-Nezhad, son of Ramazan, of Ardebil. The above-named persons, in view of their extensive records, were sentenced to death for the crime of extensive activity in the procurement and distribution of heroin and possession of 86 grams of that heroin.

5--'Ali Hqjjatol-Eslami, alias 'Ali Tala, son of Mohammad, of Bahar-e Hamadan, for the crime of selling 48.5 grams of heroin and having a record of 9 previous offenses. The above had been sought on numerous occasions, and he confessed to this filthy and satanic act after apprehension, whereupon he was sentenced to death.

6--'Abbas 'Ali Rastaqi, son of Hajji, alias 'Abbas Qomi of Qom.

7--Sattar Khorshidi, son of Mirza 'Abdolhamid of Qaryab. The above defendants were convicted of organizing a smuggling ring, possession of 1.25 kilograms of heroin and two scales and an opium pipe, and of buying and selling 5.5 kilograms of Sattar Khorshidi's heroin.

8--'Azizolla Mosibi, son of Heydar, of Khuzan-e Homayunshahr, convicted of activity in the procurement and distribution of opiates, selling 2 kilograms of heroin, and possession of 24.8 kilograms of opium.

9--Bahr'ali Resa'i, son of Karim, alias Bahman, of Urmia, convicted of intensive activity in the distribution and procurement of heroin, and the confessed seller of 2 kilograms of heroin with two previous offenses.

10--Akbar Ma'sumi, son of 'Ali of Tehran, convicted of activity in the distribution of heroin, who was sentenced to life imprisonment before the revolution, escaped from prison after the triumph of the revolution, and has a record of 18 previous offenses.

11--Gholam'ali Keshtkar Rajabi, son of Ya'qub of Qazvin.

12--Seyyed Fattah Hosseyni, son of Seyyed Hedayat of Qazvin. The above were in possession of more than a kilogram of heroin. They were convicted of activity in the procurement and buying and selling of heroin and leading their sons into deviation, and they had committed numerous previous offenses.

13--Ahmad Khaki, son of Hassan of Saez, convicted of organizing a smuggling ring, importing heroin, and possession of 1.349 kilograms and a sidearm.

14--Heydar'ali Jahanshahlu, son of 'Ali Asghar of Zanjan.

15--'Ali Jalilvand, son of Shir'ali of Tavisorkan, convicted of extensive activity in the buying and selling of narcotics. The above-named persons confessed to the selling of 13.585 kilograms of opium and were sentenced to death and hung.

9310

CSO: 5300/5396

IRAN

BRIEFS

HUGE OPIUM HAUL--Due to the sleuthing efforts of the valiant Islamic revolution guards corps of Gonabad and the anti-drug squad of Kashmar, 56 kg of opium was seized from one of these "merchants of death" named Hasan Safa son of 'Ali, who had concealed them in 8 bags in the dust. [GF051900 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 30 May 82 p 15]

SARAKHS DRUG SEIZURE--Gendarmerie officials of Sarakhs were successful in seizing 35 kg of opium from a pickup owned by one 'Ali Najafi son of Esma'il, resident of Gorgan. He was arrested and handed over to the authorities. [GF051900 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 30 May 82 p 15]

COURT SENTENCES TRAFFICKERS--The anti-drug Islamic revolution court disposed of 1998 cases of drug smuggling during the past month of which 10 persons were sentenced to execution and life imprisonment while the others were sentenced to terms of 25 years, 20 years, four persons to 15 years, 18 persons to 12 years, and 231 persons to prison terms ranging from 1 to 10 years. Some were given lesser sentences, while others were referred to the addiction cure centers. [GF051900 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 24 May 82 p 14]

BANDAR 'ABBAS OPIUM SEIZURE--The Bandar 'Abbas revolution guards report that a patrol unit seized 124 rolls of opium weighing 2 kg which was hidden in a handbag from an individual. The smuggler was arrested and handed over to the Islamic prosecutor's office. [GF021700 Bandar 'Abbas Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 2 Jun 82]

BANDAR 'ABBAS HEROIN FIND--Bandar 'Abbas Revolution Guards arrested a man for possession of 62 grams of pure heroin hidden in the sole of his shoes. [GF171424 Bandar 'Abbas Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 17 May 82 GF]

OPIUM SEIZURE IN MASHHAD--The Mashhad Islamic Revolution Guard Corps members have seized 30 kg of opium from a number of persons. [GF010944 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 18 May 82 p 4 GF]

DRUGS SEIZED IN ZAHEDAN--The Zahedan Anti-Drug Squad members have seized 27 kg of opium and 600 grams of heroin from a number of smugglers. [GF010944 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 18 May 82 p 4 GF]

DRUG ARREST--According to the Central News Unit, the anti-narcotics central headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Committee of Mashhad announced that after several days of trying, the guards discovered 26 kg of heroin possessed by 7 death-peddlers and handed the accused over to the authorities. [Text] [LD310036 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 May 82 LD]

CSO: 5300/5407

LEBANON

BRIEFS

HASHISH SMUGGLER ARRESTED--Beirut security officials have arrested a man holding a forged passport in the name of Niqula al-Khuri who was attempting to smuggle 40 kilograms of hashish hidden in two suitcases. [Text] [NC292150 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 29 May 82]

CSO: 5300/4717

SEYCHELLES

JUDGE WARNS OF CRACKDOWN ON DRUG SMUGGLERS

Victoria NATION in English 25 May 82 p 2

[Text] A HIGH Court judge warned yesterday morning that Seychelles' courts would crack down hard on drug smugglers as he sentenced a young dress designer from Tanzania to three years imprisonment and a R 5,000 fine for related offences. Failure to pay the fine will lead to an extra six months in prison.

Anthony Namata, who had pleaded guilty to the illegal importation and possession of dangerous drugs, was arrested at Seychelles International Airport at Anse des Genets last month when customs officers discovered 620 grams of cannabis, worth about R93,000 at street prices here, in two large packets of OMO soap powder he was carrying in his hand luggage.

Tears ran down 19-year-old Namata's cheeks as Puisne Judge André Sauzier told him that Seychelles' courts would be "very, very severe" in drug smuggling cases and would not allow anyone to

get away with bringing such harmful influences into the country.

"Cannabis is not a hard drug but it is dangerous because it leads to hard drugs and so can result in a young person becoming an addict for life," Mr. Sauzier said.

Namata's lawyer, Mr. Ravin Allecar had earlier pleaded for leniency from the court because his client was young, had accepted full responsibility for what he had done and had been asked to carry the two sealed packets to Seychelles by a more mature curio dealer in Dar-es-Salaam called Ben Kyela.

Namata, said Mr. Allecar, did not perhaps realise the seriousness of his offence.

Kyela, claimed the defence, had assured Namata that customs officers in Seychelles "would not dream" of opening the two packets and that someone would contact him in Seychelles.

In fact, Mr. Allecar said, an anonymous caller had called friends with whom Namata was to have stayed here, asking whether the accused had arrived.

Assistant Attorney General Pesi Pardiwalla said however that someone in Tanzania claiming to be a "Miss Namata" had telephoned an Aviation Seychelles worker and the manager of Air Tanzania asking whether the accused had cleared customs safety.

Namata was so distraught on being caught, the prosecution said, that he tried to commit suicide with an overdose of Aspirin and malaria tablets. He spent three days in hospital.

**Maximum sentence : 10 years,
R 100,000**

In his judgement yesterday morning Judge Sauzier said that the maximum sentences for the offences of which Namata had been convicted was 10 years in jail and a R 100,000 fine.

"In amending the Dangerous Drugs Act in 1973 to increase the maximum sentences, the legislature has shown its approval of the strict attitude of the judiciary with regard to drug offences.

"These offences must be stopped. Foreign nationals must be treated with the

same severity as Seychellois, the more so as by importing dangerous drugs into Seychelles they impose a way of life on the Seychellois people which is quite foreign to them."

Mr. Sauzier added, however, that he had taken into consideration Namata's youth, his guilty plea and the fact that it was his first offence.

The judge also gave the accused the benefit of the doubt that he did not actually know he was carrying cannabis.

"However he must have known that he was doing something unlawful as the circumstances were so mysterious," Mr. Sauzier said.

"You were very lucky to get just three years," Judge Sauzier told Namata later, hinting that he would have imposed a harsher sentence if not for the mitigating circumstances listed in the judgement.

Namata, who said he was the son of the Executive Director of the Tanzanian Employers Association, claimed he made about R5,000 a month back home as a dress designer, songwriter and budding novelist.

In a more serious case next week, Chief Justice Earle Seaton is expected to pass judgement concerning Mr. A. Mohamoud, a Somali citizen living in Tanzania who allegedly tried to smuggle seven kilos

of cannabis hidden in coffee tins past customs officials at Seychelles Airport last March 14.

SAP

CSO: 5300/5768

SOUTH AFRICA

SURVEY ON USE OF DRUGS AT WITWATERSRAND REPORTED

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 16 May 82 p 26

[Article by Anthea Tasker]

[Text]

A SURVEY of University of the Witwatersrand medical students revealed that 34 percent of them had tried dagga.

It also showed that the most dangerous dagga-smoking time for medical students was in their first two years of study.

The poll was conducted last year by Saul Levin, a final-year medical student at Wits.

The results were released at the Medical Students Council Conference this week.

Of the 34 percent of the 868 students who had tried dagga, only 16 percent of them admitted they smoked the weed regularly.

Survey figures showed that six percent of first-year students smoked regularly and 24 percent of fifth-year students were regular users of the drug.

Pressures

However, this did not mean that the students were qualifying as doctors addicted to dagga.

Professor Philip Tobias, dean of the medical faculty, said: "The survey did not give

any figures for the final year of the course, the junior internship.

"And one cannot make the assumption that these trends of youth are pursued into adulthood."

Professor Harry Seftel, academic head of the Johannesburg Hospital, said:

"The survey shows only that the pressures of studying increase as the medical student continues his degree.

"But the opposite might be the case when he qualifies and becomes more socially responsible.

"He might drop the smoking altogether."

Mr Sam Moss, Progressive Federal Party spokesman on hospitals, said:

"This is part of youth and growing up.

"Knowing students, I would not accept the figures absolutely as an indication that many of them smoke dagga regularly."

He said the critical finding of the survey, which had been undertaken to establish whether medical students were more indulgent with drugs than other students, was important.

"This widespread belief is not substantiated."

Saul Levin, architect of the

survey, said: "Rumours at university said it was always the medical students that smoked dagga heavily.

"I did not believe this. I found that 67 percent of the medical students had never tried dagga."

"Other surveys around the world have shown that dagga smoking increases with continued study in all medical schools, and our figures are a little below the rest of the world," he said.

"In fact, the time when the smoking increases most is between the first and second year, when it jumps from six percent to 11 percent."

Low

"This is the time when students are experimenting most."

He said the survey had to be seen totally within the context of the student community and as a comparison to the smoking of students from other faculties.

Mrs Lee Wilcox, of the Johannesburg branch of the Council on Drug Abuse and Alcoholism, said:

"My impression is that these figures are pretty low in comparison with other students."

CSO: 5300/5767

SWAZILAND

INCREASE IN DRUG ABUSE DEPLORED

Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 17 May 82 p 5

[Article by Ndvuna Dlamini]

[Text] SWAZILAND's pride like some developing countries has been dented by the skyrocketing rate of crime.

Among such crimes is the abuse of drugs, especially dagga.

The question is why does the youth, the 'cream' of society, indulge in dagga.

According to an official within the Social Welfare offices in Mbabane, the high demand of recreational facilities was one of the contributing factors.

"It has dawned on me that when people talk about recreational facilities, they usually refer to tennis courts and swimming pools. Little wonder much concentration has been paid to these areas.

Recreation

"However, I advise the concerned authorities to diversify their recreational facilities. Moreover they must contact the young people so as to know what they want," the official said.

In a society where people have been afflicted by the pangs of hunger arising from unemployment, smuggling becomes the order of the day.

This was stated by an old man who claimed that most adults sold illegal drinks

and dagga so as to earn a living.

The smugglers could not believe that they were corrupting the 'future leaders.'

They argued that through their business they had managed to feed the hungry mouths within their various families, according to the spokesman.

The spokesman further stated, teenagers used dagga for experimental purposes.

In some cases they had been brought up by parents who relied on the "do and don't" laws of our cruel society.

When a child had been instructed to avoid or never to touch a certain thing, his curiosity about it would be aroused.

He would want to know as to why he had been prohibited to do that particular thing.

But, one sociologist in the University College of Swaziland, maintained that society had become too permissive.

"Children have been left to sow their wild oats to excess so much that discipline has more or less vanished in most families.

"It is therefore not a wonder to see young people hero-worshipping artists who are said to be chain smokers.

"The child grows with the idea that he has the natural right to do what he likes and no member of society can intercept his plans.

"If such a person arises, he is viewed as public enemy number 1."

Lecture

Dagga abuse had led to broken families, according to Prof. L.P. Makhubu, Professor of Chemistry and Deputy Rector at the University College of Swaziland.

Prof. Makhubu was giving a lecture in the University College of Swaziland and she stressed that long ago dagga was used in times of war.

It probably made the soldiers vicious as hungry lions and very brave.

A certain Mr. Maseko had this to say —

"When a young man has taken dagga he might be carried away to a world of illusion. In a world where he will be cushioned thus escaping the harsh realities of life.

"He might harass his parents and accuse them of being biased and too inefficient.

"Consequently, he would be forced to desert his home and idle in the streets."

Going back to Prof. Makhubu, she was also quoted as saying that a person who was addicted to dagga was very likely to be mentally unbalanced.

When a person had reached such a state, he or she had already lost some of his true senses.

"There is nothing more painful than seeing a genius decaying like desert wood in a mental hospital just a true man is the one who faces life with all its odds," a Mbabane social worker said.

She further quoted Harper Lee in his book, 'To Kill A Mocking Bird!'

"It's when you know you're licked before you begin but you begin anyway and you see it through no matter what."

CSO: 5300/5768

GREECE

BRIEFS

FRENCH HEROIN SMUGGLERS CONVICTED--In separate cases, a court in the northern Greek town of Komotini has sentenced a Yugoslav and a French couple to long jail terms for attempting to smuggle Turkish heroin worth more than six million dollars into Greece, a police spokesman said. The spokesman said Perez Attia, a 27-year-old metal-worker and his sister Hanna, 31, both French citizens of Israeli origin, (no hometown available), were jailed for 20 years on Thursday. Customs officials at the Kastania border crossing found 27 kilograms (59 pounds) of heroin valued at five million dollars concealed in their car. The court also sentenced Sancakli Hamdi, a 45-year-old Yugoslav restaurateur resident in Vienna to 15 years for entering Greece with seven kilograms (15 pounds) of heroin valued at 1.3 million dollars stashed under the windshield of his car. Hamdi also was arrested after a customs search at Kastania. [Text] [NC052152 Athens ATHENS NEWS in English 5 Jun 82 p 4 NC]

ITALIAN HEROIN TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--From the Ministry of Finance it was announced that agents dealing with the pursuit of customs violators arrested at the Evros customs station two Italian citizens, Peton Armando and Lorentzana Barotti, for attempting to smuggle into Greece 1,200 grams of heroin valued at 12,000,000 drachmas. The heroin had been meticulously hidden in the motorcar airvent. [Text] [Athens ATHENS NEWS in English 5 Jun 82 p 4 NC]

CSO: 5300/5412

ITALY

OVERVIEW OF ILLICIT NARCOTICS ACTIVITIES

Rome L'UMANITA in Italian 20-22 Apr 82

20 Apr 82 p 37

[Article by Fabio Scaramucci: "Trip to the Drug Planet, 1]

[Text] The problem of a few has become a mass tragedy.

Heroin victims have multiplied from year to year.

A phenomenon that requires the commitment of everyone in order to obtain a reversal.

Minister of Interior Rognoni recently said that the drug phenomenon in Italy is now more disquieting, more dangerous, and more deep rooted than terrorism. That is why the government has decided to combat it at all levels, since it considers drugs to be one of the greatest dangers with respect to the distortion and regression of Italian society.

The figures, in addition to being valuable in other respects, speak clearly. From 1973 to the present, there has been a steady and striking increase in drug mortality. The single victim recorded in 1973 was followed by 8 in 1974, 26 in 1975, 31 in 1976, 40 in 1977, 62 in 1978, 129 in 1979, 208 in 1980, and 230 in 1981. And these are only the official figures, which do not include those of drug deaths that are not known because they are recorded in reports that speak vaguely of cardiac and circulatory disease, of viral hepatitis, inexplicable road accidents, or suicides during periods of obvious abstinence. But how did things get to this level?

The drug calamity started to take shape in our country in 1970. One set of statistics shows that there were about 500 drug addicts in Rome (none of them heroin addicts), all less than 26 years old. But already in 1975 this reality had radically changed. There was talk in Rome of 1,000 persons addicted to "heavy" drugs, while in Italy as a whole there were probably 6,000. Thus, in 5 years the nature of drug dependency had changed substantially. Around 1970 the most widely distributed drug was hashish, followed at a distance by marijuana. That is, we were still in the field of "light" drugs.

But this situation did not last long. While in 1972 the distribution of amphetamines was already a big phenomenon, it did not take long for the "new stuff" to appear. First came morphine and then, toward the end of 1974, came heroin, the lethal "white death" that decimated young lives.

Distributors carefully chose sample cities for their "launches"--and from Milan, Turin, Genoa, Livorno, and Rome came the second phase of drug dependency. It seems that at first distributors offered heroin completely free of charge, but it is definitely known that in Milan, in December 1974, a dose (40 percent pure) cost about 10,000 lire, an attractive price.

However, it took a couple of years more for the phenomenon, which in the meantime had spread like an oil stain, to reach its present tragic dimensions. But it is now a fact. In big cities, the distribution of heroin exceeds the gloomiest of predictions. At the same time--but certainly not by chance--amphetamines and "light" drugs are disappearing little by little from the market. Distributors are multiplying and now the most conspicuous person is the victim, himself, the drug addict, forced to become a distributor in order to obtain money for his own drugs. Deaths are beginning to be counted, increasingly numerous and to a great extent of very young persons. It is estimated that there are at least 100,000 users of opiates today in Italy, while speaking conservatively at least 600,000 persons more or less consistently use "light" drugs. But there are also those who speak of a million drug addicts, young people in particular, from 11 to 25 years of age, whose average age unfortunately is decreasing.

Taking, for example, the 436 official drug victims recorded from 1977 to 1980, it is noted that until 1978 the deaths were included in the 18-25 year old group (63.3 percent), and the 26-40 year old group (36.7); while from 1979 on, the phenomenon extended to other ages, both older and younger, with a much higher incidence for those younger than 18. Thus, in 1980, 4.3 percent of the victims were younger than 18 and 1.5 percent older than 40. Still in that year, out of 208 deaths, 182 were males, but the percentage of deaths for females younger than 18 was 15.4 percent, compared with 2.7 percent for males. The same was recorded in the over 40 group. Women represented 7.7 percent, compared with 0.6 percent for men.

Thus, in a short time drug addiction changed from the problem of a few to a mass tragedy. Because of the enormous number of young people involved, because of the power of drugs to ravage psycho-physical integrity and the social and moral behavior of entire generations, because of the waste of resources connected with the use of drugs, it is a question of a phenomenon that assumes specific political, social, and cultural importance. It requires the commitment of everyone in order to attain a reversal.

/21 Apr 82 p 37

[Article by Fabio Scaramucci: "Trip to the Drug Planet, 2"]

[Text] Heroin abounds in big cities, but also in small localities, and in vacation spots. Organized crime controls drug trafficking, with enormous profits.

In recent days, during the course of a big summit meeting of magistrates, politicians, and police officers, striking figures on the distribution of drugs in Rome were made known. They were collected by the Drug Squad of the Solicitor's Office in 2 years of full-time activity in this field. In the capital 20 kilos of cocaine and as many of heroin are secretly sold daily to meet the demand of at least 70,000 drug addicts, with a wholesale "turnover" of about 2 and 1/2 billion lire. On the other hand, magistrates of the Solicitor's Office said that it is impossible to furnish precise data on the distribution of "light" drugs, since the use of hashish and of marihuana "is so generalized that Rome is literally inundated with them."

Thus, in Rome there are at least 40,000 young heroin addicts; but these preoccupying levels are certainly characteristic also of other big Italian cities, such as Milan, Turin, or Naples. However, the drug phenomenon is no longer limited to big urban settlements. In fact, beginning with 1979, many small centers--in particular, vacation spots--have exceeded every forecast in the matter of drug sales. Mass tourism of course is among the causes of the spreading of the phenomenon in bathing resorts. At most beaches in the summer there is now an enormous availability of heroin, supplied not only by the usual venders, but also by Italian and foreign tourists who pay for their vacations through the sale of drugs.

Along all Italian shores, the market has become very prosperous. It is estimated that last summer, on the Adriatic coast alone, the quantities of drugs sold were much greater than the annual consumption in big cities. The same phenomenon was ascertained at all of the beaches on the Tuscan coast, where the drug problem, which in winter is relatively contained, assumes particular virulence in summer. The traffickers, from the clearing bases at Grosseto and Massa, supply the market with an abundance of drugs, to meet the increase in demand. However, Pesaro on the Adriatic, Naples and Salerno on the Tyrrhenian Sea, Sanremo and Ventimiglia on the Ligurian Sea, still constitute the biggest bases from which heroin radiates to vacationers.

A particular reference to the drug market increase in smaller centers should be made in the case of Verona. Out of a population of 270,000 inhabitants, there are more than 10,000 drug addicts. This means that percentage-wise, this city of the Scala family can truly be characterized as the drug capital of our country. Heroin comes to Verona directly from the Middle East (by sea or on board the TIRs, and the immense quantities on the market cost less and are

purier; they contain 20-30 percent heroin, compared with 5-6 percent on the Rome "market." Daily consumption has reached 3 kilos of heroin, 90 kilos a month, valued at 27 billion lire. Taking 15,000 lire as the base price of a dose, it is without doubt one of the lowest in Italy.

It is well known that the biggest existing crime organizations are behind this enormous drug trafficking. In Rome--as the magistrates of the Solicitor's Office emphasized--the trafficking of cocaine can be traced back to South American criminality, to the Neapolitan Camorra [Neapolitan secret organization], and to the Calabrian 'ndrangheta; heroin, on the contrary, is controlled by the Sicilian mafia and, to a lesser degree, by Arab criminality. However, the mafia exerts an undisputed leadership in the control of trafficking, not only with respect to the national market, but also the foreign one (West Germany, the United States, Canada), with tremendous proceeds. It is enough to realize that the proceeds of annual drug sales has been estimated at 20,000 billion lire in Sicily alone.

Just to get an idea of the enormous profit realized by the criminal organizations that control the production and trafficking of drugs, one must realize that to obtain one kilo of heroin in a well-equipped laboratory (and in Sicily no less than 7 were discovered in recent months), 850 grams of morphine are needed; while to obtain one kilo of basic morphine, 10 kilos of opium are usually needed.

At present 10 kilos of opium cost the trafficker about 800,000 lire, but the full kilo of heroin that can be obtained from it, once fractionated and distributed on the international market, can amount to something like 1 billion lire.

It is thus a question of the most gigantic criminal speculation ever carried out in any sector. It has induced big crime to definitively abandon other classic channels of support: prostitution, illicit gambling, the smuggling of cigarettes.

22 Apr 82 p 37

[Article by Fabio Scaramucci: "Trip to the Drug Planet, 3"]

[Text] Italy has become an international drug trafficking crossroad. In the face of a phenomenon of such proportions, the ways and means of transporting the "stuff" are varied.

Drugs start with the cultivation of poppies, from which opium is derived, the main economic support of some countries. The biggest producers of opium are India, the Asian "golden triangle" (Thailand, Burma, and Laos), Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran, and the Soviet Union, but the material that is trafficked is distributed on the international market, in order of importance, from the "gold triangle," India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Mexico.

The most important world distribution routes of the bulk of the drugs are the "golden triangle"--Hong Kong--the United States, the Turkish-Russian (which transports drugs from the Middle East to the United States, through France), and the Turkish-Slavic-German, by land, through Italy. However, drugs arrive in our country for the most part from Holland, Monaco (one of the transit routes), Afghanistan, and Thailand.

The ways and means of transporting the "stuff" are varied, but recently "couriers" have resorted with greater frequency to using suitcases with false bottoms. They have also tried to import drugs by concealing quantities in pictures, statues, or on themselves, in the heels of shoes, or even in their intestines (in small containers placed in the rectum).

In the face of a phenomenon of such proportions and scope, police forces everywhere find themselves in great difficulty. Our police force for its part is doing all it can. According to the figures of the anti-drug administrative department of the Ministry of Interior, 15,225 persons were involved in drugs in 1981 (compared with 14,222 in 1980). Of these, 9,477 were denounced for the trafficking and sale of drugs, or other drug-connected offenses (there were 7,783 in 1980); 2,500 were found to be in possession of drugs; and 3,349 were declared to be users. In absolute terms, the monthly average of those who were denounced was notably greater compared with the preceding year: 790 in 1981 compared with 648 in 1980. The number of kilograms of drugs confiscated last year by the police, carabinieri, and customs officers was 11,437, an increase of more than 109 percent compared with 1980.

Without doubt it is a question of brilliant operations, but which unfortunately have an impact on only the base (the "couriers") and the adjacent, non-carrying structures (sellers-drug addicts) of the trafficking pyramid, while the top levels remain in the shadow. It must be remembered, in fact, that the drug phenomenon has a great crime potential, not only because it finances and sustains the most dreadful of international "gangs," but also because it leads drug addicts to crime when in search of money needed for their "debt." It is not for nothing that the magistrates of the Solicitor's Office of Rome have stated that about 80 percent of the thefts and robberies committed in the capital and in neighboring areas are carried out by drug addicts. The drug "circuit" thus produces all kinds of crimes.

In a short time, chiefly because of its particular geographic location and its coastal development, Italy has become an important international drug trafficking crossroad. Because of its extreme seriousness (official estimates speak of at least 100,000 drug addicts, and of 400 deaths a year, but it is well known that the hidden reality is even more preoccupying), the drug phenomenon has become such a great political problem that it has induced the government to assume a responsibility.

Minister Rognoni announced that a plan for intervention in various sectors will be implemented and that it will be articulated along four strategic lines.

First, a cultural commitment is envisioned, and a commitment to obtain the knowledge needed to closely probe all aspects of the problem; then, a commitment to fight hard against the criminal circuit that prospers on drugs; finally, a thorough means of sensitization of public opinion, on the one hand, and of the organization of pertinent agencies, on the other.

The customs officers, for their part, have recently concluded a complete study of the subject, in which some financial, penal, and administrative measures are suggested, in order to stimulate the anti-drug fight in our country. Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Costa, on the other hand, has proposed that a network of Italian investigators be established in countries from which the drugs that are destined for our market emanate, in order to block the trafficking of drugs at their source. The Foreign Affairs, Health, and Finance ministries are working on this plan. Their intention is to equip anti-drug offices with specialized personnel, to be supported by embassies and consulates, in about 20 countries where the greatest quantity of opium, coca, and cannabis is produced.

In short, 1982 should be the year for anti-drug mobilization. But to break this spiral that is becoming more tragic with each day, a commitment will be needed from everyone, because drugs no longer are the private affair of a few. They cut deeply into the social fabric and very life of the country.

8255

CSO: 5300/2299

ITALY

MORE STRESS ON SOCIAL ASPECTS OF ANTI-DRUG PLAN NEEDED

Rome AVANTI in Italian 27 Apr 82 p 8

[Article by Alvaro Benedetti: "Psychologists and Sociologists in Combatting Drugs"]

[Text] There is one "point" in the government's plan for combatting drugs, presented during the past few days by Interior Minister Rognoni, that is very interesting, but not treated in sufficient depth, at least as presented. This was the point about psychological and social treatment of the drug dependent after detoxification; a process which doctors and experts agree should be maintained as one of the basic opportunities within the overall strategy toward achieving the breaking of the drug dependency phenomenon, obviously in combination with the strategies of combatting smuggling, education, preventive measures among youth, and public enlightenment.

Therefore, one of the four guiding principles for implementation of the plan, which, it should be remembered, was prepared by the Ministry of the Interior with the close cooperation of the Health Department, is a "cultural and informational commitment" by the government to explore the drug problem more fully in all its aspects, and, internally, to review "the quality and quantity of the public and private institutional response in the areas of prevention and treatment of drug dependency."

This is the point we find interesting: this is the new aspect. The government, convinced until yesterday that the drug problem could be dealt with and resolved solely by massive measures to combat smuggled goods, wholesale or retail, and, more recently, also with the medical approach based on methadone and morphine, has now come around to proposing new initiatives, for example, some kind of education program for youth in the schools and barracks.

Now, finally, the government has reached what we may call the third stage, and has approved the plan, which is described as offering hope of providing an overall response to a serious problem.

Therefore, there is to be not only an intensified combat of smuggling, increase in the educational campaign, and more thorough enlightenment of the public--all, whether or not directly affected at this time--on the "problem," but also intensive work on the psychological and social level.

Thus, alongside the work of the law enforcement organizations and the doctors, there will be a greater role for the psychologists, physchoanalysts, and social aides, who are, we repeat, the only ones capable of bringing to a successful conclusion the work begun by the doctors, i.e., to psychologically heal the drug dependent, and convince him that he can "live without drugs"; and reeducate him to live with himself and others in the reality of daily life (school, work, conduct, esthetic appreciation, value of money etc.), in summary, to put him back in society.

However, the public organizations best able to perform this delicate and determining role do not in fact exist, or rather there are some, but in very limited number, and most of them operating on meager resources. There are, on the other hand, a considerable number of the so-called "communities," most of which have shown good results.

However, strange as it may seem, nobody knows exactly how many there are and where exactly they are located. The map showing them is notable for its outline character, and notes that the situation is in constant change. However, by deciding to tackle the drug problem also on the psychological and social level, the government in the person of the minister of health has conducted an information survey of these "communities," both to determine the number and location, and to study the structure, methods of operation, results achieved, and experience developed.

A few months ago the minister of health assigned this research project to the "Abele Group" study center with headquarters in Turin. It specializes in maladaptive behavior, and should come up with a picture of the real situation, though that is subject to rapid variations.

In Italy there are about a hundred "communities," but only 27 are devoted to drug dependents and alcoholics; the others are open also to other youths who are maladaptive for various reasons.

These "communities" are spread widely over the country in smaller or larger concentration depending on the extent of the drug phenomenon in the various areas: about 75 percent in the north, 20 percent in the center, and the remaining 5 percent in the south and the islands.

They have developed in various environments: 40 in the country, 35 in the city, and 25 in semirural areas; only 35 describe themselves as treatment centers, the others call themselves "communities of service, of life" and other purposes.

Overall, these "communities" can shelter 1,500 people, most of whom are between 18 and 25 years old. Ninety percent of the communities were the result of private volunteer activity, and only about 7 percent were set up by local institutions. Overall, there are some 400 social-health workers serving in the communities, about 40 of whom are former drug dependents.

As for the most difficult problem, which they have to face virtually every day, the matter of financing, half of these "communities" live off private contributions or their own work (agriculture, handicrafts, and other), and only four are financed entirely by public organizations. The remaining 46 receive both public and private contributions, and of them all only 10 percent request payment directly by the families of youth being sheltered.

Those "communities" are said to be able to handle about 1,500 young people, and this means that despite their best intentions and the beneficial work that they do with the totally disinterested contribution of several hundred social-health workers, they are not capable, and perhaps never will be capable, to respond to the psychological and social needs of more than 100,000 drug dependents, particularly the 40,000 heroin addicts.

Thus, it is the state that will have to take action, on a large scale, to establish specialized organizations. A while ago the exalted minister of health affirmed that his ministry spends annually 2 billion of his 26 billion budget on combatting drugs. However, as Beria D'Argentine, chairman of the judges association, so aptly observed, the point to examine is whether these billions are being spent in the best way.

9920

CSO: 5300/2297

NORWAY

DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS TIED TO HEROIN GANGS IN MIDDLE EAST

Oslo ARBEIDERBLADET in Norwegian 8 May 82 p 11

[Article by Petter Nome]

[Text] A routine mistake by one of the narcotics syndicates in the Middle East--this is the probable reason why four young drug users died of overdoses in Oslo last week.

The extremely strong heroin never should have reached the market. The drugs must be of "high quality" and not too strong--this is the motto of the drug syndicates. In this way, the customers live longer.

According to all indications, this motto is being followed.

"In Germany the number of drug-related deaths has been reduced by half in a few years--from over 600 per year to 'only' 300 to 400," said Helge de Fine, a Norwegian police officer with Interpol's narcotics section in Paris.

More Addicts

"This is not because the market and drug abuse have declined. On the contrary," de Fine said. "But those who process the drugs have gained considerable skill. They carefully monitor the additives to be sure they are not poisonous and they see to it that only 'cut' heroin reaches the street market."

Thus, all indications are that the extremely strong heroin that took the lives of four young drug abusers in Oslo in 1 week had slipped through the quality controls. The drug was 70 to 80 percent pure. Normally it is about 20 percent pure.

"There are no indications that parts of the same shipment have reached other European countries," de Fine said. "The overdoses in Oslo must be due to chance."

The "Golden Crescent"

Neither de Fine nor investigators in Norway know where the deadly heroin came from or how large the shipment was. It is believed, however, that it accidentally escaped detection in routine quality controls at one of the drug factories in

the Middle East.

Ninety percent of the heroin confiscated in Europe comes from the "Golden Crescent," the region from Pakistan in the east to the Mediterranean Sea and Turkey in the west. The drugs are refined in this same region by several independent criminal organizations.

Mafia

Previously, the European market was dominated by the Italian Mafia with drugs from the "Golden Triangle" (Southeast Asia). After lying low for several years, the Mafia now seems to be involved more and more in the production and sale of narcotics. Since 197[omission] this ruthless organization has reestablished laboratories in southern Europe. The drugs produced here go primarily to the American market.

9336

CSO: 5300/2296

NORWAY

TRIAL BEGINS; MAN ACCUSED OF SMUGGLING HASHISH FROM MOROCCO

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 27 May 82 p 5

[Article by Helge Sorensen]

[Text] The main hearing continued Wednesday in Eidsivating superior court with statements by all concerned and an examination of the man accused of narcotics violations, Hakon Willoch. Along with four members of the crew of the seagoing ship "Baby Bel," he is accused of having smuggled a total of 115 kilograms of hashish from Morocco to Norway in the period from October 1979 to June 1980. The charges against Willoch also included a number of other serious violations. These were examined in more detail during yesterday's hearing.

Willoch has confessed to only one of the items in the accusation without reservations. This involved helping to finance Einar Aarseth's stay when he was on the run in Spain.

"Aarseth is a friend of mine and I was glad to help him. I understood that he needed money to stay in Spain and it seemed like the right thing for me to do."

Another item on the list of charges is that Willoch and a friend twisted the arm of 64-year-old Georg Alstad behind his back and forced him into a bathtub full of water in September 1978 in Goteborg. According to the charges, the two held the 64-year-old man's head under water until he began to lose consciousness and then left him lying in the bathtub.

Willoch said Wednesday that he had been in Denmark at that time and that the story was not true.

"That is a gruesome story. I am not violent; I am a peaceful sort of person. When conflicts arise, I use my mouth and not my muscles--there are some people who have already found that out," said Willoch.

Both the friend and Georg Alstad have been called as witnesses in the case.

In a detailed statement to district attorney Stein Husby this February, Hakon Willoch gave a detailed account of what he knew about the smuggling

trips to Morocco. Willoch said in the statement that he was forced to take that step to clear himself of information given and accusations made by the smuggler gang. Willoch said in court Wednesday that he had to do that to show how the others in the case were covering up for each other and putting the blame on him.

Before the statement was sent to the district attorney, Willoch had sent letters to the others charged in the case, strongly urging them to make correct statements and tell the truth about his participation in the narcotics trafficking.

"The letters were a straightforward recommendation to tell the truth, but the accusations were not withdrawn and I sent the story of the real smugglers to the district attorney.

"I was not interested in bringing out the truth about them, but in bringing out the truth about myself. They ignored that and I had no choice," said Willoch.

In the comprehensive letter to the district attorney, Willoch said that a woman from Drammen knew that her husband was involved in smuggling hashish from Spain to Norway. But in the police hearing a month later, Willoch withdrew that allegation because he felt it was pointless to create problems for the woman. In the written police statement, Willoch characterized the motives for presenting incorrect information as "other than bringing out the truth."

Willoch said in court Wednesday that he himself used hashish and he also used the occasion to tell about the admirable effects of hashish.

"I am definitely of the opinion that hashish should be legalized. It is a pleasant intoxicant that makes people talkative, tranquil and good-tempered. People who smuggle and sell hashish have my full sympathy," said Hakon Willoch.

Willoch said that ever since he was released after his sentence in 1977, he had felt persecuted by the police.

6578
CSO: 5300/2301

NORWAY

BRIEFS

TRONDHEIM NARCOTICS USE UP--Trondheim--Despite the fact that the Trondheim narcotics police cleaned up a gang selling amphetamines on a large scale last year, there are still rumors of widespread use of the substance in Trondheim. According to the rumors, there are several small groups of people smuggling the drug in from Sweden. This appears from the annual report of Trondheim police headquarters which has just been released. The report also says that LSD is again making its way onto the Trondheim narcotics market after the drug was apparently rejected by addicts for a while. The police suspect that cocaine is also being used and they think they have good reason for saying that this drug is not unknown in certain artistic and pop circles in Trondheim. In general the report from the Trondheim police narcotics division indicates that narcotics abuse is increasing. There was an increase in drug seizures last year compared with previous years and 128 cases in all were investigated compared with 40 cases the year before. These cases led to 31 sentences compared with 15 in 1980. The police feel the use of cannabis has spread both geographically within the district and to a lower age group. [Text] [Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 25 May 82 p 14] 6578

CSO: 5300/2301

SWEDEN

VIEW OF HIGHLY ORGANIZED DRUG NETWORK CHALLENGED

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 28 Apr 82 p 4

[Commentary by Leif G. W. Persson: "The Narcotics Officers' Cops-and-Robber Romanticism Has Taken Over Reality"]

[Text] All the talk about dope kings at the top of a pyramid is sheer nonsense, says crime researcher Leif G. W. Persson. The narcotics market is in reality a very flat pyramid, with people moving up and down and in and out of the structure. The organization is dissoluble and the individuals are easily dispensable.

The narcotics king is of no more importance to the structure as a whole than the mere user.

Evil will be driven out by evil. This is the thought behind the suggestions of heavily increased authority for the police. The fight against narcotics is to be paid for by our giving up fundamental principles of law and order.

First a comment.

There is no given place for the narcotics problem in a debate on law and order. On the contrary, the discussion benefits when such questions are ignored. Here this is, unfortunately, impossible because of the approach chosen by the proponents of the new police methods.

It is thus necessary to examine their main argument: /that these methods will bring such great advantages to the battle against narcotics that they will compensate for the losses in law and order/ [bold face].

Now something about the conditions for this battle.

Number of Addicts

According to UNO (Narcotics Abuse Commission), there are 10,000 to 14,000 people who are "heavily addicted to narcotics." The number of "occasional users"--present as well as rehabilitated--can, according to the same source, be estimated at a few hundred thousand.

Other experts mention higher numbers. Nils Bejerot, for example, maintains that we have more than 20,000 heavy users.

Be that as it may. In this situation the exceptions are of less interest. A realistic compromise points to the involvement of 20,000 heavy users and approximately ten times as many occasional users.

Together, these consume (in 1 year, for the whole country, in round figures) tens of kilos of opiates (heroin, etc.), hundreds of kilos of stimulants (amphetamines, etc.), and thousands of kilos of cannabis (hash, etc.).

Counted in money, it is a market with a turnover of some hundred million kronor a year, or about as much as the cost of society's total effort in fighting the problem--police control, customs surveillance and care of drug addicts.

Number of Policemen

In 1981 there were barely 400 policemen working with narcotics criminality, evenly distributed across the country according to statistical criteria. Subtracting a quarter of the men, who are on leave of absence, ill, taking classes or on vacation, a force of 300 remains.

The majority is behind their desks, busy investigating the 60,000 narcotics crimes reported in 1981 or questioning the 13,000 suspects who ended up with them during the same year.

A mathematical equation:

For each narcotics officer there are approximately 60 heavy users and approximately 600 occasional users. For each narcotics officer in the field, there are 200 heavy users and 2,000 occasional ones.

The Market

So much for the conditions of the project. What structure is demanded of the narcotics market for it to become effective? What kind of technology is needed?

Esbjorn Esbjornson has the answer. He is the highest narcotics officer in the country and the man who initiated and carried through the police strategy used in this field. It is he who has chaired the different teams that developed the proposals for the new police methods, and it is he who has tried to sell them in the mass media. He is a man who ought to know what he is talking about. At least if one looks at the purely formal.

According to Esbjornson, the Swedish narcotics market has a hierarchical pyramid structure that is highly organized and closed to the surrounding world. At the top are the drug kinds, surrounded by their courts. Below them are different layers of distributors and salesmen. At the bottom are the customers, the users.

The dope is pumped through big pipelines that branch out into a network that supports the base of the pyramid. From there comes return flow of capital that accumulates toward the top of the pyramid and finances new purchases. An economical circulation with a turnover of amounts in the billions, yielding enormous profits.

With the help of a group of dependable police reporters who year after year have been given unlimited space in the country's largest media, Esbjornson and his co-workers have taught us that we can strangle the supply of narcotics by turning off the faucets at the top of the pyramid. By catching a "narcotics king," "crushing a drug syndicate," we can remove those means considered to be the necessary condition for the abuse.

This is sheer nonsense.

The King

Let us look first at the picture of the dope king.

Using the mass media's own terminology, the police have put approximately one dope king a month "out of action" during the 15 years the fight against narcotics has been underway. A closer examination of the reality behind the headlines shows that the average dope king has amazingly much in common with the average basic user.

An absolute majority of them are Swedish citizens, with little or no education, their own addiction and a criminal record.

Exchange the word Swedish for Greek, Turkish, Yugoslav...and here you have the average foreign dope king; a person who would make you more depressed than frightened and who, in normal cases, would not be able to manage an ice cream stand without the business folding. Not a millionaire in a striped suit with restaurants, buildings and a Swiss bank account.

Firm Structure

The firm structure of the narcotics market? The inevitable need for capital and connections in order to reach the higher levels?

Amounts in the 10,000-kronor range are perfectly sufficient for a person to establish himself as a wholesaler. One's own experiences as a user or connections with such people are sufficient for learning the means and the channels that make it possible to move up. There are no watertight doors in the narcotics market; people can move readily between the different levels.

There are innumerable examples of "small narcotics abusers" who have suddenly appeared with personally financed kilo lots. After a short period of euphoria, when the money is gone or the police have stepped in one naturally returns to one's earlier existence.

It is possible that "Sivan and Sune"--to quote Esbjornson himself--cannot tell "hash from camel shit." But they learn. In about a quarter of an hour.

Are narcotics difficult to obtain?

Amphetamines can be produced in one's own kitchen with normal distilling abilities and ingredients available in a drugstore. Within an hour's travel from Sweden one can get wholesale lots of heroin with the connections and the capital mentioned earlier. Cannabis can be bought by "Sivan and Sune" and as long as the money lasts.

A Hundred Grams

Esbjornson speaks ironically about the hecto lots of heroin that are smuggled in in vaginas, rectums, car tires and double-bottomed suitcases. But he carefully avoids mentioning that 100 grams of high quality heroin is equivalent to 3,000 doses, a year's need for 30 exceptionally intensive heroin users, and that the purchase price for such a lot is around 100,000 kronor, and the street price is more than 2 million kronor.

And he is very careful not to mention that all available experience, among other things his own confiscation statistics and his own work results, show that it is lots of that size and smaller that essentially support the heavy users in this country.

The narcotics market is in reality a very flattened "pyramid" where people move up and down in and in and out of the structure, where the organization is dissoluble, the availability relatively high and the uncommunicativeness proportionately low, where the individuals are easily dispensable and the narcotics king is of no more importance to the structure as a whole than the pure user and where the addicting drugs seep through the structure in a very finely branched distribution system.

The Lever of Belief

It is a structure that contains one unavoidable part, if one looks at the abuse itself: namely, the 20,000 heavy narcotics users. Moreover it contains one essential component, if one looks at the economics of the same market: the 200,000 occasional users who feed the blackest part of the market with capital.

With this description of the problem, it is simple enough to understand why Esbjornson and his friends-in-purpose insist on presenting the narcotics market as they do. They have to, if their resources, their strategies and their technological demands are not to stand out in all their absurd idiocy.

Unfortunately, one is at the same time pursuing a policy that is not without consequences.

In the first place, it is an obstacle for seriously intended and effective measures against a considerable social problem. And it will remain an obstacle as long as enough people believe in Esbjornson's and the others' promises and assurances.

In the second place, it brings great risks to the policemen who are to be used in the battle: lowered credibility, wasted resources, corrupt legal practice and plain corruption.

Impossible Task

In the third place--and now I have returned to what this debate is actually about--it brings a serious hollowing out of law and order, without giving us anything in return. Esbjornson's task is impossible, irrespective of new technology and new methods.

Please get Esbjornson's article of 17 March and reread it. It mainly contains half a dozen police station stories, an assurance that we must count on the good intentions of the police and a concluding statement that man is even more awful than Esbjornson believes.

Totally apart from the fact that it does not have to be like that because Esbjornson thinks it is, this is not what the question is about. Instead, it is a question of ordinary problem insight and common sense, qualities that in this case can be used with advantage to produce a society with a lessened need for drugs and to give us functional care of those who are already users.

We already have enough police knowledge. It is only to return to the old-fashioned, strict and legal methods that were practiced before the agent and the cops-and-robber romanticism was allowed to take over reality.

9843

CSO: 5300/2173

SWEDEN

MAXIMUM SENTENCES SEEN FOR AMPHETAMINE SMUGGLERS

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 17 May 82 p 6

[Article by Sune Olsson]

[Text] Two big drug dealers from the early 1970's are back in custody. They will be tried Monday [17 May] for deals involving at least 40 kg of amphetamines, and public prosecutor Bo Josephson is asking the court to adjudicate 10 million kronor in compensation for the profits on their businesses. The men risk 14 years' imprisonment.

Behind the action against the men lies a complicated and difficult investigation which also includes an extensive alibi check in Spain. The prosecutor and the narcotics police investigator, Criminal Inspector Bengt Widlund, together with the Spanish criminal investigation police, carried out a big investigation, which broke down the alibi offered by one of the men. A Spanish examining magistrate, a Spanish hotel-owner, and a Spanish journalist also participated in the investigation.

Early in the 1970's the two men got long terms for serious narcotics offenses, one of them near the maximum term. That means that they are in the immediate risk zone under the new system of penalties that was introduced when internment as a penalty was abolished a year or so ago. At that time special rules were introduced for persistent offenders, where the importance of protecting society is regarded as taking precedence over the rehabilitation aspects.

In the present case the rules mean that if the men's guilt is considered proved the court can sentence them to up to 14 years' in prison. Public prosecutor Josephson says that he will demand the maximum penalty in court.

The unmasking has its origin in the story of the Netherlands truck driver who was seized in Skåne in February when he was about to deliver a truck tire packed with 42 kg of amphetamine. The man, who was later sentenced to 9 years in prison, confessed that on 11 November of last year he had also transported a spare tire filled with at least an equal amount of narcotics and delivered it in Skåne.

Not a Member of the Ring

The police's problem, however, was that the truck driver was not really a member of the ring. He received the tire and contents prepaid from members of the league that were unknown to him down on the continent. He found out where he was to deliver the tire in Sweden, but he did not know the Swedish recipients.

How the police got on the track of the two men now involved is not reported. They have been in custody for weeks while the investigation was being conducted on a large scale both in Sweden and in Spain. In Sweden the police found in a safe deposit box belonging to one of the men gold, jewels, and loose precious stones worth nearly 200,000 kronor altogether. In 1981 the man had only 32,000 kronor in officially declared income, but he declares a capital of 300,000 kronor in round numbers.

The man was released after his previous imprisonment in 1977 and at that time had debts from earlier narcotics deals of several hundred thousand kronor. He paid off these, too. In a bank account that is now empty, a relatively short time ago the man had nearly a quarter of a million [kronor]. And that account showed plenty of large deposits and withdrawals, the largest in the 100,000 kronor class.

Both Deny Guilt

In the other man's safe deposit box the police found only the equivalent of 50,000 kronor. But they also found a receipt for payments in Portugal made in Swedish kronor. Two items were involved, amounting together to 50,000 kronor. The man admits that much, and several deposits cannot be proved although there are suspicions. But that is also the only admission. Both deny that they have dealt in narcotics.

The man with the declared capital accompanied his denial with an alibi. He says that at the time of the narcotics shipment in November, which the prosecutor blames primarily on him, he was not in Skåne but in Spain, where he was held because of a traffic accident. It was a collision that occurred on 8 November, and because the Swede did not have a green card the automobile was held.

Afterwards the man tells how he took care of the affair in Spain with the help of a woman, a receptionist at a hotel, as interpreter. He reports an interrogation by the Guardia Civil [Civil Guard], a meeting with the other party, and a settlement on 17 November in Barcelona. But also an appearance before the examining magistrate in Santa Colomne, who decided on 19 November that the automobile should be released. Thus the man could not have received any shipment of drugs in Skåne.

Prosecutor Josephson and Criminal Inspector Widlund, who speak fluent Spanish, established together with the Spanish criminal investigation police:

Never Saw the Man

The examining magistrate, who was shown a photo of the Swede, declares that he has never seen the Swede before. From the court proceedings it appears that the traffic accident did take place, that the Swede was summoned to a

hearing on 16 November, but that he did not appear at the hearing. He showed up in January 1982. But then the other party came forward and declared that he had been paid by the Swede and had no further claim.

The other party, a Spanish journalist, was also contacted during the investigation. He confirmed the collision on 8 November and stated that he had been offered on the spot and had accepted 150,000 pesetas in compensation. The Swede had been very insistent on an immediate settlement. Since that time the journalist had not seen the Swede.

Afterwards the Swedish investigators and the Spanish criminalists visited the hotel. It was learned that the director and his wife had owned the hotel for 5 years. On the other hand the female receptionist that the Swede had spoken of did not exist. The hotel director backed that up with his payrolls, etc.

The whole Spanish investigation is now available in the form of copies of the proceedings, attested by Spanish authorities.

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CSO: 5300/2300

TURKEY

BRIEFS

NARCOTICS SEIZED--Seventy kilograms of base morphine and 258 kilograms of hashish from foreign countries have been seized in Van since the beginning of the year. Van Governor Behcet Bren has said that nine persons were arrested in connection with the seized narcotics. [Text] [TA021640
Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 2100 GMT 1 Jun 82]

BASE MORPHINE SEIZED--Diyarbakir (HHA)--Following the "lightning triangle" operation carried out in the Diyarbakir, Hakkari and Van Provinces, 59 kilos of base morphine, worth 300 million liras in foreign markets, has been seized and 14 persons have been detained. It has been learnt that these 14 persons belong to an international network engaged in narcotics smuggling to Europe and the United States through the Greek Cypriot sector of Cyprus. A high-ranking official has stated that the names of the members of this network will be disclosed in the next few days. [NC081621
Istanbul HURRIYET in Turkish 4 Jun 82 p 3 NC]

CSO: 5300/5413

UNITED KINGDOM

LENIENT SENTENCE FOR HEAD OF DRUG-SMUGGLING RING

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 15 May 82 p 3

[Article by Ian Henry]

[Text]

AHMET BEKIR, 43, head of a huge drug-smuggling ring, smiled at the Old Bailey yesterday as the judge told him that because of his ill health, his 12-year jail sentence would run concurrently with a 14-year sentence imposed in January, also for drug smuggling.

Judge UNDERHILL, Q.C. said he was showing "some degree of leniency" in ordering a concurrent sentence because of serious injuries Bekir received in a car crash in Turkey while on one of his smuggling runs.

Bekir, who used his North London pickle factory as a front for his drugs dealings, was one of seven gang members jailed for their part in smuggling heroin into Britain in cars though Dover.

Three men were each jailed for nine years, two for six years and one for four years.

The judge told them all that the greedy people involved in drug smuggling played for high stakes and had to receive deterrent penalties.

Overseas fortune

In fact, Bekir, who lived in a council flat at Portland Rise, Finsbury Park, is believed to have amassed a personal fortune in Canadian and American banks as well as having invested in the property market.

His gang handled upwards of £38 million worth of heroin before customs officers broke his operation. A fleet of cars, including Rolls-Royces, Jaguars and 'Rovers', brought in an estimated £30 million worth of heroin within a year. At least 11 trips were made before the gang was smashed.

His sentence in January was for conspiracy to smuggle heroin through Heathrow.

Jailed for nine years were Sedit Sonmez, 22, clothing shop owner, of Riga House, Shandy Street, Stepney; Bekir's brother, Fuat Bekir, 26, clerk of Antill Road, South Tottenham; and Rifat Halluma, 27, sausage maker, of Otway Court, Granville Road, Finsbury Park.

Jailed for six years were Ibrahim Mustafa, 36, lorry driver, of Horle Walk, Lilford Road, Camberwell; and Sedat Karatepe, 22, cafe worker, of Thoresby House, Clissold Road, Stoke Newington.

Hilme Mustakalli, 25, factory worker, of Gabriel Street, Forest Hill, was jailed for four years.

CSO: 5320/30

UNITED KINGDOM

BRIEFS

AIRPORT SPOT FINES PLANNED--On-the-spot fines for travellers caught with small amounts of cannabis at sea and airports are being planned by the Customs and the Home Office in an experimental scheme. Preliminary tests are expected to begin at Heathrow by early next year, and will be adopted at other ports if successful. The scheme will avoid costly court appearances for travellers and busy customs investigators and police. It is believed that a 25 pounds' fine for possession of up to 10 grams of cannabis has been discussed but final figures have yet to be agreed. The scheme will involve travellers both arriving and departing from Heathrow and include internal and overseas travel. If possession is denied then existing laws will come into operation and travellers will make a court appearance. Lawyers believe that it will only need a change in Customs regulations to bring the scheme into being. [By John Weeks] [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 28 May 82 p 11]

CSO: 5320/30

END